

TENTH YEAR.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 29, 1893.

NUMBER 3313.

ASSASSINATED

Carter Harrison Shot
Without WarningBy a Demented Car-
rier of The TimesWhom he Had Prom-
ised OfficeThe Assassin Quickly
ArrestedAngry Crowds Would
Lynch HimGreat Excitement All
Over Chicago.Details of the Hor-
rible Crime.

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—Carter Henry Harrison, five times mayor of Chicago, was assassinated at his home in this city at 7:50 tonight. The murderer, who is undoubtedly demented, was Eugene Patrick Prendergast, a paper carrier on Mr. Harrison's Journal, The Times, and who lived at No. 609 Jane street. The assassin, who was pursued to a police station, said that he had killed the mayor because he had promised him the corporation of the city of Chicago, and had failed to keep his word.

Mayor Harrison was to have been married to Miss Annie Howard of New Orleans on the 5th of next month.

At 7:50 o'clock this evening, a man ran up the front steps of Mr. Harrison's residence, at No. 211 South Ashland avenue, and rang the bell. Mary F. Anson, the servant, answered the bell, and the man outside called for Mr. Harrison. She said he would have to wait a moment, as Mr. Harrison was asleep on the sofa in the parlor, at the same time going back through the hall to call him, leaving the door open. In a moment Mr. Harrison stepped from the parlor into the hall. In an instant the



man had drawn a revolver and fired, the shot entering the abdomen just above the navel. Two more shots rang out an instant later, the first of which entered the mayor's body under the left arm, penetrating the heart. Mr. Harrison, when the first shot was fired, had started toward the door, and the second shot struck him when, within a few feet of the assassin, Mr. Harrison was so close to the muzzle of the revolver when the third shot was fired that the bullet shattered one of the knuckles of his left hand and the powder burnt his flesh.

Exchange of Shots.

Mr. Harrison's coachman, who was in the rear of the house when the first shot was fired, ran into the hall and fired three shots at the man as he started out of the front door. The murderer passed for an instant, turned about and fired a parting shot at the coachman. He then ran down the front steps and passed rapidly north on Ashland avenue.

Mayor Harrison, after the last shot was fired, stepped into the parlor and started toward the door. He had taken but a few steps, however, when he was fired into the back of the head, which led to the rear of the house. His son Preston, who was upstairs at the time of the shooting, ran down and was at his father's side in an instant.

Mr. Harrison said: "I am shot, Preston and cannot live."

Mr. Harrison hastily left his father's side and rushed out upon the street in pursuit of the assassin.

Shot in the Heart.

In the meantime Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Chambers, who live across the street, had heard the shots, and the assassin was running up Ashland avenue and met the son, Preston, in pursuit. Young Mr. Harrison stopped long enough to inform his neighbors of the terrible affair and then started on in pursuit of the murderer.

Mr. and Mrs. Chambers hastily entered the house. Mr. Chambers at once making a pillow of his own coat, which he placed under Mr. Harrison's head.

"I have been shot and cannot live," said the mayor, as he gasped for breath.

"No, I have been shot in the heart, and I know I cannot live," was the reply.

These were the last words of the mayor.

He immediately became unconscious and died at 8:25.

The murderer, pursued by the coachman, ran along Ashland avenue toward Monroe at a breakneck pace. Coming to Monroe street, he turned to the east and started for the city. The pursuer, who had been reinforced by an officer and several uniformed men, gained rapidly on their man. On they sped until Desplaines street was reached, when the hunted man again turned to the north and in a few moments had reached the Desplaines street police station. He walked in and approached the sergeant at the door.

He was about to speak when the foremost of his pursuers rushed breathlessly into the station. "Look that man up," said the coachman, "he has killed Mayor Harrison."

In an instant the sergeant was out from behind his desk, and catching hold of the man's arm, pulled him within the wire enclosure as though to preserve his life from a crowd which was gathering with astonishing rapidity.

Without waiting to register the prisoner was quickly taken back and placed behind the bars. The station was then cleared of the excited people and the sergeant went for a talk with the prisoner.

"My name is Eugene Patrick Prendergast," he said in response to the first inquiry.

"Do you know that you have killed Mayor Harrison?" asked the sergeant.

"Yes, and I am glad of it," was the answer. "He promised to give me the corporation of the city and has not kept his word."

"Where do you live?"

"At No. 609 Jane street, with my mother," said the prisoner. This ended the interview.

The sergeant at once telephoned the central station, and in a few moments several officers from that district were at the Desplaines street station. A patrol was called a few moments later and the prisoner was brought to the central station down town. Here another examination was held and the revolver which had been taken from the murderer at the Desplaines street station was given into the keeping of the officer in charge.

To the County Jail.

Shortly after 11 o'clock the patrol was again brought into requisition for the purpose of conveying the prisoner to the county jail. The news that the murderer had been taken from the prison rapidly down town and when the officers emerged from the station in the big county building they found the crowd of nearly 500 persons assembled about the entrance to, and the walk from the station. The prisoner was instantly surrounded by a mob of men, and a consultation held. The officers, fearing violence to their prisoner from the crowd without, feared to make the trip and asked for reinforcements. A detail of six officers was summoned, and at 11:15 the prisoner, closely guarded, was brought out of the station, hurried through the long passageway to the street and hustled into the wagon in a jiffy. The officers were barely seated before the wagon was in motion, and amid the shouting of the crowd, it sped rapidly to the north side, where he was lodged in the county jail for safe keeping.

PHENDERGAST'S THREATS.

He Had Promised to Kill the Mayor and Keep His Word.

Developments made late tonight go far toward indicating that Prendergast has had murder in his heart for several days. On Thursday afternoon of the present week he entered Billy Boy's shop house on Calhoun place and took a seat at a table occupied by W. A. S. Graham, the murdered mayor's secretary, and another gentleman well known in local financial circles.

Graham, who was acquainted with Prendergast, introduced him to his friend and both gentlemen noticed that the new comer was laboring under intense excitement. Presently without any remarks being exchanged to lay a foundation for what was coming, Prendergast burst into a tirade, and declared that he was the latter's opponent to the elevation of the surface railroad tracks. This was a subject that has long been agitated in local politics and one in which public sentiment was frequently being expressed with emphasis.

"If he don't elevate the tracks I will kill him,"

"I will shoot him dead," ejaculated Prendergast, bringing his fist down on the table with a force that made the dishes rattle and attracted the attention of the other patrons of the place. The gentlemen addressed simply smiled at him, attributing the strong language to the excitement under which he was laboring. Observing this, he again ejaculated, "I will kill him," and then, "Yes, I will kill him mark what I say. Unless he does it he is a dead man."

Not imagining for a moment that Prendergast cherished any thought of carrying out his threats, the gentlemen gradually subsided, and when he left the place he had apparently forgotten what he had said in the heat of passion a few moments before.

Another of the gentlemen thought any more of the subject and Secretary Graham regarded it as no more than a trivial. As far as is known he did not mention the subject to his chief.

In the early mail that was delivered in the 7 a. m. delivery at the city hall was found a letter from Prendergast addressed to Mayor Harrison, in which he urged upon the executive the necessity of immediate action upon the elevation of the tracks. Secretary Graham, upon whom the duty of opening and distributing the mayor's mail has always devolved, laid the communication to one side, regarding it as lacking sufficient importance to bring to the personal attention of the mayor, but rather as emanating from one of the many who of cracks that day in and day out deluge the mayor's office with recommendations and propositions of all kinds and things innumerable. After the mail had been sorted Secretary Graham, who had an appointment at the city hall, left for his office, and the letter, which had been in his possession when he was at the city hall, was found by him in the morning.

At the Times Office.

How the News Was Received by the City Editor.

The building occupied by The Times, of which Mr. Harrison was proprietor,

was the gathering place of the most excited throng and murmurs against the life of the assassin are heard on every hand.

The information was not enlarged upon here, the bulletin simply stating that Mayor Harrison had been killed and his assassin apprehended. Murmurs were heard on every hand, and the fact that the whereabouts of the assassin was kept a secret by the police no doubt prevented summary action.

The information reached the office of Mr. Harrison's newspaper, The Times, through the telephone to the city editor's room. When the telephone bell rang, Mr. Adair, foreman of the composing room, was standing by city editor Frank R. Dallas, who was seated at his desk. Mr. Dallas asked Mr. Adair to answer the telephone, and upon the latter doing so, he received the message.

At first the news was not believed, and it was thought that there had been a mistake somewhere or that someone was trying to throw a joke, but confirmations for a short time after by another message stating that the mayor was dead and asking that a carriage be sent at once for the mayor's daughter, Mrs. Etta Owsley who lives at No. 403 Erie street. Upon confirmation of the news the greatest excitement throughout the city was manifested.

Compositors in the composing room left their cases and all work ceased for some time. In the city editor's room every available man was at once dispatched on an assignment in connection with the occurrence, and in the office of the night editor and managing editor there was little work done for several hours. As soon as the news spread throughout the downtown portion of the city, political friends of Mr. Harrison began to call at the Times office for confirmation of the news, to learn in detail of the occurrence and to offer their condolences.

Willis J. Abbott, the Times managing editor, said tonight: "The entire force of the paper, from editor to compositor, is unnerved by the event. We thought it was a joke, but now we know it was a tragedy. We were so sure before we could bring ourselves to believe that the terrible event had really happened. This man Prendergast has written several postal cards lately to the mayor, asking for the position which he claimed had been promised to him. The postal cards would be addressed sometimes to Mayor Harrison, care of the city hall, at other occasions to Mayor Harrison, care of The Times. He had also made frequent visits to the office, and had been seen by the night editor and managing editor, and for his son, Mr. Preston Harrison. On one occasion he entered my office and said: 'I am your friend, Mr. Preston Harrison, in? I would like to see him about that job he promised me.' I set him down at once as a crack. He told me that he was a friend of the mayor, and that he was sure he would be appointed to the position. I could not not be sure. I went over to the police station this evening and am satisfied that the man who is held there is none other than the man who said that his name was Prendergast, and who made the threats here, which I have mentioned to you."

SOBROW UNIVERSAL.

Balls and Banquets Break Up When the News Reached Them.

The Commercial club of Chicago was giving a banquet at Kinsley's, Lyman J. Gage, H. N. Higginbotham, John B. Drake, N. K. Fairbank, N. B. Ream, E. T. Barker and others were present for their guests Charles Dudley Warner, Bruce Joy, the English sculptor, Commissioner George V. Massey of Delaware, Paul du Chailieu and Florence Driscoll, M. P.

The men had been passed and General McClure as toastmaster introduced Charles Dudley Warner who spoke upon the preservation of the exposition buildings and paid a tribute to Marshall Field's munificent gift in the founding of the Columbian museum.

While he was speaking a messenger walked rapidly in the door and sought H. H. Kohlsaat, whispering to him that he was wanted in the corridor outside. Mr. Kohlsaat quietly walked to the door where he was informed of the terrible affair. He would not believe it and hastened down stairs for a confirmation by telephone.

On his return to the banquet room he whispered to Chairman McClure, and then to Mr. Armour and Mr. Gage. The four gentlemen held a brief consultation and decided to make the announcement and adjourn together.

The Rev. Frank Canislaus had succeeded Mr. Warner, and unconscious of the terrible disaster that had befallen the chief of the city, was delivering an eloquent speech on the benefits of the exposition.

Suddenly he was interrupted by the toastmaster, who said: "Gentlemen of the Commercial Club and Guests: It is with extreme pain that I am compelled to arrest the progress of this meeting and to announce to you that the Hon. Carter Harrison, mayor of the city of Chicago, has been shot and killed. The news came to us that he was shot about half past 7 o'clock and died within an hour after, but we have not as yet learned any of the details of the tragedy. The opinion of the few gentlemen who have been made aware of this terrible affair that the meeting should at once adjourn."

There was an impressive silence following the announcement, which was broken only when the dinner arose and in groups discussed the affair.

A ball and concert was in progress in the Germania Muesenchor club when the sad news of Mayor Harrison's assassination was announced. The brightening of the festivity to a sudden termination, the splendid orchestra changing from a Strauss waltz to Beethoven's funeral march from Egmont in a minute. The terrible news was talked about for a few minutes by the dancers who looked very sad, and carriage ordered, and the party broke up long before 11 o'clock.

FARWELL SHEDS TEARS.

His Announcement Stamped a Republican Meeting.

A republican meeting held in the interest of the judicial candidates in this county was in session at Turner hall at 8 o'clock this evening, the house being uncomfortably crowded. Ex Governor Richard J. Oglesby was in the midst of an address when the announcement of the mayor's death was made.

The north side is the great German section of this city and has always been the stronghold of the Harrison's political supporters. Party lines have always been obliterated in this section when Mr. Harrison was a candidate for office, the Carter Harrison men, as they were known, looked to the standard of their chief, and all opposition vanished. Mayor Harrison's great hold on the people of this city was never better illustrated than it was in the session in which the announcement of his death was received by the gathering of men called together to work for his political opponent.

J. V. Farwell, the wealthy dry goods merchant of this city, was present, arose and in a voice filled with emotion said: "Another murder to be avenged."

The regulation of the man and his manner forbade the thought that he intended to commit lynching. Nevertheless the utterance was taken up instantly by the hundreds present and as if by mutual understanding they arose as a body.

"An awful deed has been committed," he said; "an awful deed has been done. Blood has been shed. Carter Harrison has been assassinated and there is another murder to be avenged."

Little need was there for moving an adjournment. But for fully a minute no one stirred. The roar that broke the painful stillness began near the stage and rolled down along the audience. The eyes of those men shone like balls of fire. Mr. Farwell said: "There is another murder to be avenged."

The cry, "Lynch him," had reached the crowd, and with outstretched hands and shouts trickling down his cheeks, he started: "Stay, men, for a moment." The crowd did not heed him, but tore through the doors as the place was in flames.

"Stay for a moment," again shouted Mr. Farwell. But Mr. Oglesby clutched Mr. Farwell's arm, saying: "Do not keep them; let them go."

Soon these 1,000 men threatening vengeance were clambering into street cars on Grand street or dashing away toward the west side in carriages.

DOWN TOWN SILENCE.

News of the Mayor's Death Creates Great Excitement.

When the news of Mayor Harrison's assassination reached the downtown streets immense crowds gathered around the newspapers buildings, reading the bulletins posted from time to time with eager interest.

A few minutes after the murder extra editions of several morning and evening papers were on the streets and the cries of hundreds of newsmen, "All about Carter Harrison's murder," soon aroused the people to a pitch of intense excitement. The newspapers were sold by the handful, and the supply was totally inadequate. Crowds quickly assembled in front of the few bulletins telling of the assassination and the apprehension of the murderer.

From all parts of the city bodies of men were collecting and moving toward the scene of the murder and toward the city hall.

Wherever the news became known a small group of men, astounded at what they had heard, got together to discuss the event, and as if by common impulse, they all turned toward the city hall, where the murderer was most likely to be confined, or to the Harrison residence on Ashland boulevard.

That the thought uppermost in the minds of these men was to take the life of the assassin is not to be questioned to disclose. The common sentiment once alarmed the police authorities, and all the reserves were marshaled in the heart of the city.

There are grave fears that some outbreak may occur, but despite the excited condition of the steadily increasing crowds, heroic efforts will be made to protect the private from violence, and it seems hardly possible that if it shall become necessary to remove him from the city the authorities can be prevented from accomplishing such a coup.

In the lobby of every hotel, in restaurants, bar rooms and in all places where people congregate, the news was noised about with astonishing rapidity and inquiries were pressed right and left for information in the matter. Several meetings of the city were hastily adjourned when the dreadful news reached them, and many threats were heard against the assassin could his whereabouts be established.

The crowd of people increased as the evening advanced but beyond the threats and mutterings heard at every step, no concerted move was made toward administering summary justice to the murderer. Here and there were heard excited shouts of "where is he?" "shoot him up," and "lynch him," and ejaculations of like character, but they were quickly hushed by the police. The murderer was watched closely by the crowd at the Central station. As he was being brought in a few threats were heard from the excited throng, but they took no definite form and no violence was done.

GOV. ALTGELD SHOCKED.

He Talks of His Last Interview With Harrison.

Governor Altgeld was sitting in the rotunda of the Sherman house chatting with two of his Chicago friends when the news of Mayor Harrison's death was brought to him. At first he was skeptical and believed the report to be false, but a few moments later another message came and he was convinced that Mayor Harrison had really been assassinated.

"It is a terrible and tragic thing," said the governor as he clasped his hands. "I am so surprised and shocked that I scarcely know what to say. In fact I can hardly realize that the report is true. Only two days ago I saw Mr. Harrison and he was in the talk. He was very well. I remarked to him that was time that he was looking better than he had for years, and he told me laughingly that he was feeling as young as a boy. During our conversation I took occasion to congratulate him on his approaching wedding, and he seemed to please him very much. Our personal relations have always been most friendly and I had always entertained a high regard for his abilities as an executive officer and his many charming personal qualities. I am so taken by surprise that I can say nothing more, except that I am shocked by the news of his death."

"Chicago has lost a distinguished citizen and one whose loss will be knavely felt."

HIS ENGAGEMENT.

He Was in Marriage Miss Howard of New Orleans November 5.

Two weeks from next Tuesday Mr. Carter H. Harrison lived for that brief period he would have taken to himself a third wife in the person of Miss Annie Howard of New Orleans. It is less than two months since his engagement to the only daughter of the late Crescent city millionaire, and king of the Louisiana Lottery was made public. At first the report was received with incredulity and even his closest friends were loath to believe that in view of his advanced years, and especially of his statements after the death of his second wife, that thereafter Chicago would be his only bride, that he contemplated again entering the matrimonial state. When questioned on the subject, the mayor was at first

inclined to be reticent and gave positive replies to his interrogators, but finally when a concealment was no longer possible, he owned up to the soft-spokenness with a slight heartedness on the power of love, even over gray-headed men, and to some of his questions he put the pointed question as to whether they did not think he was a pretty vigorous bridegroom for a man of his age. What this age was he would not definitely say and some amusement was created among old residents by his suggestion that he had yet to round his sixtieth year.

At this time the prospective bride was the guest of some local relatives residing in the south side of the city, about half way to the world's fair grounds, and it was the daily visits of the mayor to this residence that first gave the clue to the reports of his engagement. At this time the definite date had been fixed for the wedding. In the early part of September, Miss Howard had been for some time in poor health, and the following week she left for a brief visit to the east, returning here yesterday. The Times, which was only a brief visit to the east, returning here yesterday. The Times, which was only a brief visit to the east, returning here yesterday.

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